

### **Additional Data from the Cetacean Stock Assessment Surveys from NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Assessment Center (SWFSC)**

The following cetacean maps are based on data from NOAA's marine mammal stock assessment program, conducted by NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC). Maps for 18 cetacean species (or species stocks) are included below (Figures 4.27-4.32) to provide additional mapped information that was available for these species. Most of these maps result from the broad-scale, cetacean ship surveys, although aerial survey information is included for the California coastal stock of the bottlenose dolphin, Figure 4.32. This survey data is used to develop stock estimates and trend analyses for most marine mammals that occur off the coasts of California, Oregon and Washington.

Like the CDAS data, the SWFSC data do not represent the distribution of the species, but do provide an indication of the broader spatial extent of the species. Since the SWFSC data were not incorporated into the CDAS central California data set and maps, they are presented separately, below.

Except for the coastal bottlenose dolphin data (May-July, 1990-2000), the data for these maps were provided in Phase I of this assessment. The maps show cetacean sightings (species group size) and effort locations, generally for the late summer and fall seasons (ranging from July-December, the late Upwelling and Oceanic seasons) of the SWFSC cetacean ship surveys for four years: 1991, 1993, 1996 and 2001, off the coasts of California, Oregon and Washington. For Phase II, SWFSC data from all available years for each species or species stock was combined into one map, to better understand their spatial extent.

For more information on the marine mammal stock assessment survey data used in this assessment, contact Dr. Jay Barlow at [Jay.Barlow@noaa.gov](mailto:Jay.Barlow@noaa.gov) or visit the following websites for additional information on the SWFSC marine mammal surveys and stock assessments:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/sars/species.htm>

or

<http://swfsc.noaa.gov/textblock.aspx?Division=PR&ParentMenuId=148&id=1247>

Two additional descriptions were developed for species that were mapped using SWFSC data but not CDAS data - bottlenose dolphin and short-beaked common dolphin; these descriptions are included after the SWFSC maps, below.